

Also on page 9, line 26, please replace "silane oxynitride" with -- silane-based oxynitride

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On page 9, line 29, please replace "silane" with -- silane-based --.

On page 9, line 30, please replace "silane oxide" with -- silane-based oxide --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Please cancel claims 1-35 without prejudice.

Please add the following claims:

- 00654093-083100 Q²
36. A semiconductor device, comprising:
an electrically conductive member;
a dielectric layer under said conductive member, said dielectric layer containing a dopant and a contaminant;
a contaminant barrier under said dielectric layer;
an insulating region under said contaminant barrier; and
a plurality of electrically conductive regions under said contaminant barrier and flanking said insulating region.
37. The semiconductor device in claim 36, wherein said contaminant barrier comprises at least one material selected from an oxide, an oxynitride, a nitride, and combinations thereof.
38. The semiconductor device in claim 37, wherein said contaminant barrier comprises at least two materials selected from an oxide, an oxynitride, a nitride, and combinations thereof.
39. The semiconductor device in claim 37, wherein said electrically conductive member comprises a lead.

Q²
Cont'd.

40. A circuit device, comprising:

- a conductive structure configured to receive a voltage;
- a first insulation portion under said conductive structure, said first insulation portion including an organic contaminant;
- a second insulation portion under said first insulation portion, said second insulation portion having an index of refraction ranging from 1.5 to 2.6; and
- a substrate under said second insulation portion and comprising:
 - an electrically conductive first region,
 - an electrically conductive second region, and
 - an insulation region between said first region and said second region.

41. The circuit device in claim 40, wherein said first region is a first active area within a well; and said second region is a second active area within said well.

42. The circuit device in claim 40, wherein said first region is a first well and said second region is a second well.

43. The circuit device in claim 40, wherein said first region is a first n-well and said second region is a second n-well.

44. An insulative stack between a top conductive member and a lower-lying plurality of conductive areas, said insulative stack comprising:

- an insulating region between said plurality of conductive areas;
- a carbon barrier over said insulating region; and
- a carbon-containing dielectric over said carbon barrier and under said top conductive member.

45. The insulative stack in claim 44, wherein said insulating region comprises a field oxide.

46. The insulative stack in claim 44, wherein said insulating region comprises a trench oxide.

A²
Cont'd.

said preventing step comprises layering a barrier over said substrate using a non-organic precursor prior to said step of depositing a dielectric layer.

54. The method in claim 53, wherein said layering step comprises layering a barrier using silane.

55. A method of at least partially forming a circuit device, comprising:

providing a semiconductor substrate;

layering a carbon-free barrier on said substrate; and

layering a carbon-containing dielectric on said barrier.

56. The method in claim 55, wherein said step of layering a carbon-free barrier on said substrate further comprises layering said carbon-free barrier using a plasma.

57. The method in claim 56, further comprising a step of heating said carbon-containing dielectric.

58. The method in claim 57, wherein said step of heating said carbon-containing dielectric comprises raising a temperature of said dielectric to a range of 850° C to 1050° C for at least 5 seconds.

59. The method in claim 57, wherein said step of heating said carbon-containing dielectric comprises raising a temperature of said dielectric to a range of 750° C to 1000° C for at least 5 minutes.

60. A method of processing a substrate comprising two active areas and an intervening insulating region, said method comprising:

depositing an oxide charge barrier over said substrate;

depositing a generally insulative material over said oxide charge barrier, wherein

said generally insulative material is less insulative than said barrier; and

providing a generally conductive element over said generally insulative material,

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